

REMARKS

A restriction requirement has been made requesting election of Group I (claims 1-15), Group II (claims 16-19), or Group III (claims 20-22). Group I is hereby elected and the claims of Group II and Group III are canceled without prejudice. In addition, claims 1-15 of Group I have been canceled in favor of new claims 23 and 24. It is believed that claims 23 and 24 are directed to the invention of Group I. In any event, however, claims 23 and 24 represent a single invention for examination. The claims have not been canceled or added for reasons of patentability, as all original claims are believed novel. Instead, the claims have been canceled and new claims added to assist the assignee in furthering its efforts to prevent copying and use of its technology in an efficient manner.

The specification has been amended to recite specific novel aspects corresponding to original claims 1-22 in the body of the detailed description.


If, for any reason, the Office believes a telephone interview would be helpful, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney or agent.

The Applicant(s) further disagree with the characterizations relied on by the Office to support distinctness of the groups.

In summary, Applicant(s) have elected the claims of Group I for further prosecution and provisionally withdrawn the non-elected claims from consideration. Reconsideration and further prosecution on the merits all of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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